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U.N. COURT TELLS ISRAEL TO CONTAIN GAZA DEATHS, GIVES NO TRUCE ORDER

The International Court of Justice stopped short of ordering a ceasefire in Gaza on Friday, merely telling Israel to contain death and damage

Genocide case brought by SA

The court rejected Israel's request to throw out the genocide case brought against it by South Africa. The court demanded that all necessary measures be taken to prevent the genocide of Palestinians in the coastal enclave. It did not approve request for an immediate ceasefire

26K Palestinians killed since the war's start, as per the Gaza Health Ministry

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu rejected genocide claims and asserted that his forces will continue fighting until they achieve "absolute victory" over Hamas | PTI

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Tableaus from various states celebrating the diverse roles played by women in society on display during the 75th Republic Day parade in New Delhi on Friday | SHEKHAR YADAV

The Tricolour unfurled by the Indian Arctic research team at India's research station 'Himadari' | PTI

CELEBRATION OF WOMAN POWER

● Women take centre-stage ● Arms display showcases India's growing military prowess

MUKESH RANJAN, RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR & MAYANK SINGH
@ New Delhi

INDIA'S *nari shakti* was on display at the 75th Republic Day Parade on Friday with the armed forces and various divisions of the Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF) sending all-women contingents to march down the Kartavya Path.

The parade began at 10.30 am and proceeded from Rashtrapati Bhavan to Kartavya Path. The themes for this year's parade were *Viksit Bharat* (developed nation) and *Bharat: Loktantra ki Matruka* (guardian of democracy). The Central Reserve Police Force, the Border Security Force, Sashastra Seema Bal and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police each send a 144-strong all-women contingent.

For the first time, an all-women tri-service team of 144 personnel — 48 each from Army, Navy and Air Force — participated in the parade. In another Republic Day first, over 100 women artists took part in the parade playing Indian instruments like conch, nadaswaram and drums.

Sixteen states, including Manipur, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana, Odisha, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh showcased the women's roles in diverse areas through their tableaus.

A group of 1,500 dancers, under the banner of *Vande Bharatam-Nari Shakti*, celebrated unity in diversity with 30 distinctive folk dance styles. The parade also saw 265 women bikers showcasing various daredevil stunts on motorcycles. "The 75th Republic Day Parade showcased the nation's extraordinary Nari Shakti," President Droupadi Murmu wrote on 'X'. Besides women power, the parade featured missiles, warplanes and surveillance gadgets in a display of India's growing military prowess. P9,10

President Droupadi Murmu and Prime Minister Narendra Modi take the salute as French President Emmanuel Macron looks on in New Delhi on Friday

Security lapse in Bengaluru

Bengaluru: A man trespassed into the Field Marshal Manekshaw Parade Ground during the R-Day celebration on Friday. Accused Parashuram from Mysuru was overpowered by the police as he was running towards the VVIP gallery where Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot were seated, and taken into custody. P2

Police take Parashuram of Mysuru into custody after he tried to enter the VVIP gallery at Manekshaw Parade Ground in Bengaluru on Friday| EXPRESS

JD(U) calls MLAs' meet amid buzz

RAMASHANKAR AND RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR @Patna/New Delhi

AMID buzz on Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar readying to do another somersault and heading a new government with the BJP, the JD(U) called a meeting of its legislature party in Patna on Sunday.

The rift in the ruling front had its 'Kodak moment' on Friday when Nitish's deputy Tejashwi Prasad Yadav failed to turn up at a high tea hosted by Governor Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar to mark Republic Day. The seat beside Nitish — meant for Tejashwi — remained vacant.

Parallelly, the RJD and the Congress, the two other allies of ruling Grand Alliance, called separate meetings of their leaders on Saturday to discuss the situation. RJD chief Lalu Prasad spoke to assembly Speaker Awadh Bihari Choudhary. Choudhary is an RJD MLA from Siwan.

Bihar deputy CM Tejashwi Prasad Yadav fails to turn up at high tea hosted by the Governor

Complicating the situation, JD(U) MLA Gopal Mandal warned that the party would split if it were to ally with the BJP. The electoral math is pretty tight. JD(U)'s 45 MLAs, BJP's 78, Hindustani Awam Morcha's 4 and the support of an Independent MLA would take the total to 128 MLAs — six more that the simple majority 122 in the 243-member assembly. On the other hand, the RJD along with the Congress and three Left parties have 114 — 8 short of 122.

The RJD is learnt to be in touch with Jitan Ram Manjhi's HAM. It has offered a deputy CM's post to Manjhi's son Santosh Kumar Suman.

EXPRESS READ

PM Modi a puppet of RSS, says Kharge

Bengaluru: All-India Congress Committee (AICC) president Mallikarjun M Kharge on Friday termed Prime Minister Narendra Modi a puppet of RSS, and appealed to the people of the country to vote Congress to power to protect the Constitution, which he felt is under threat under the Modi-led BJP government | P4

Man fires in air, bullet hits GP president

Vijayapura: Gram panchayat president Somavva suffered bullet injuries when a man fired in the air during a Republic Day function at Hirerugi village in Indi taluk on Friday. The bullet hit her thigh. Police arrested Mallu Ginni, the accused.

34 MLAs made chiefs of boards, Haris gets BDA

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Congress government appointed 34 MLAs as chairpersons of boards and corporations on Friday. However, the deadlock over appointment of Congress workers to boards and corporations continues despite AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge holding talks with party functionaries over their failure in reaching a consensus.

This apart, the leak of the list of appointments made has sparked a controversy in the Congress party.

Shanti Nagar MLA NA Haris, a staunch follower of Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar, will head the Bengaluru Development Authority (BDA).

Chamarajanagar MLA C Puttarangshetty has been appointed as chairman of MSIL and BG Govindappa as chairman of Food and Civil Supplies Corporation. Both are supporters of Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Basanagouda Daddal, a supporter of PWD Minister Satish Jarkiholi, has been appointed as chairperson of the Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation. Food and Civil Supplies Minister KH Muniyappa's daughter and KGF MLA M Rupakala has been appointed as chairperson of Handicrafts Industrial Development Corporation. CONTINUED ON: P4

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